

Message Text

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13

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 PER-01 SS-15 MMS-01 SP-02 ABF-01

RSC-01 /038 W

----- 038783

P R 251006Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 804

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMCONSUL CASABLANCA

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY SANAA

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L MUSCAT 101

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: APER, BEXP, XF, LE, MU

SUBJECT: ROLE AND STAFFING OF REGIONAL TRADE DEVELOPMENT
OFFICE (RTDO)

REF: (A) STATE 15785

(B) MUSCAT 922 OF DEC. 29 (NOTAL)

1. AS OUTLINED IN REFTEL (B), RTDO ACTIVITY VIS-A-VIS
OMAN IS MINIMAL AT BEST.

2. EMBASSY MUSCAT'S ECONOMIC/COMMERCIAL OFFICER IS ABLE
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TO HANDLE LOCAL PROGRAM (N.B. WE ASSUME SAME IS TRUE AT

OTHER ADDEE POSTS) IN SUCH A WAY THAT RTDO RESPONSIBILITIES REASONABLY MIGHT BE CONFINED TO THOSE ACTIVITIES OF A SPECIAL OR REGIONAL NATURE. THUS, WE AGREE WITH ROLE DEFINED PARA 2(A) REFTEL (A). SOLE ITEM IN OFFING FOR CONCEIVABLE RTDO ACTIVITY IN OMAN WOULD BE LATE-MAY MARINE CATALOG EXHIBIT; THIS LEVEL OF INVOLVEMENT WOULD NOT JUSTIFY ASSIGNING ADDITIONAL STAFF TO RTDO.

3. THERE MIGHT BE MARGINAL ADVANTAGE (RE OMAN) IF RTDO OR OTHER NEW COMMERICAL POSITION LOCATED IN GULF RATHER THAN IN BEIRUT (OMANI BUSINESSMEN HAVE SOMETHING OF AN AVERSON TO LEBANESE CAPITAL). HOWEVER, SUCH ADVANTAGE WOULD BE OFFSET BY MORE DIFFICULT TRANSPORTATION CONNECTIONS. WOLLE

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NNN

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